

portion of every day. During the latter part of the summer I visited the hospital both morning and evening, besides giving prompt attention to emergent cases.

In demonstrating by comparison of the disease and mortality tables of the past two years, the evils resulting from overcrowding and insufficient ventilation, there are other circumstances to which I deem it my duty briefly to advert. In 1875, when these causes were peculiarly operative, and increasing from frequent accessions to the number of convicts, I invited Dr. P. E. Hines, of this city, (a skilled physician, who had had large and varied experience in charge of hospitals during the late war) to visit the Penitentiary, examine the hospital, inquire into the causes of the prevalent sickness and mortality, and give me the benefit of such suggestions as to treatment and sanitary measures, as his extensive experience in these regards might afford. He very kindly complied with my request, and stated as the result of his examination that "after a thorough investigation into the causes for the sickness and mortality of the convicts, he found ample cause for the sickness in the crowded condition of the cells." In a letter now before me, Dr. Hines says: "In your hospital I found the patients crowded into about one-half the space necessary for the treatment of sickness, and although I find you using the best remedies known to the profession, your mortality is greater than it would be if you had more room and better ventilation for your patients; in fact, I think you labor against very great odds in the treatment of your sick." * * * * *

"I found that you were using in the hospital the best disinfectants, and everything as clean as could be, both in the hospital, the cells and the grounds. *The crowded condition of the men, and the imperfect ventilation are, I believe, the principal causes of the sickness in the institution.*"

The gratifying decrease of disease and mortality during the present year very strongly confirms the views above advanced. The morbid causes were to a great extent removed by the